Amendments to the Specification

Additions are indicated by underlining (underlining).

Please replace the paragraph spanning page 76 fourth paragraph through page 77 first paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

In order to characterize the specificity of various compounds the following assays were performed. PPIase activity of hPin1, hCyp18, LpCyp18, hFKBP12 and EcParvulin was measured using the protease-coupled PPIase assay according to Fischer et al. (Fischer, G.; Bang, H.; Mech, C. Determination of enzymatic catalysis for the cis-trans-isomerization of peptide binding in proline-containing peptides. [German] Biomed. Biochem. Acta 1984, 43, 1101-1111; Hennig et al., Selective Inactivation of Parvulin-like peptidyl-prolyl cis/trans isomerases by Juglon, Biochemistry. 1998, 37(17):5953-5960). For hPin1 measurements Ac-Ala-Ala-Ser(PO_3H_2) -Pro-Arg-pNA [SEQ ID NO: 1] was used as a substrate and trypsin (final concentration 190 µg/ml) as an isomer-specific protease. Activity measurements of other PPIases were made with the substrate peptide Suc-Ala-Phe-Pro-Phe-pNA [SEQ ID NO: 2] and the protease α-chymotrypsin (final concentration 470 µg/ml). The assays were performed in a final reaction volume of 150 µl at final concentrations of 6 nM hPin1, 10 nM hCyp18, 5 nM LpCyp18, 20 nM EcParvulin and 20 nM hFKBP12, respectively, and 120 µM substrate peptide in 35 mM HEPES (pH 7.8). For inhibition experiments 100-0.01 µM of effector freshly diluted from a DMSO stock solution were added. The amount of solvent was kept constant within each experiment, usually below 0.3% (v/v). All reactions were started by addition of protease. The test was performed by observing the released 4-nitroaniline at 390 nm with a MR5000 UV/Vis spectrophotometer (Dynex) at 6°C. Data were evaluated by calculation of pseudo-first-order rate constants k_{obs} in presence of PPIase and PPIase/effector, respectively, and corrected for the contribution of the non-catalyzed reaction (k_0). Inhibition constants IC_{50} were calculated using SigmaPlot 8.0 (SPSS).